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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF UTAH, CENTRAL DIVISION

In re:

ALLEN BEAL,

Debtor.

STATE BANK OF SOUTHERN UTAH, a Utah banking corporation,

Plaintiff

VS.

ALLEN BEAL,

Defendant/Debtor.

Evidentiary Hearing on Motion to Extend Time for Filing Adversary Proceeding, and Motion to Strike

Case No. 19-20276

Volume 2

October 24, 2019 * 1:01 p.m.

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Reporter: Dawn M. Perry, CSR

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236 SOUTH 300 EAST SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111



801-532-3441 FAX: 801-532-3414

INFO@CITICOURT.COM

1	APPEARANCES	
2	FOR THE DEFENDANT/DEBTOR:	
3	Will Morrison	
4	Attorney at Law Morrison Law Office 5957 S. Redwood Road	
5	Suite 101 Salt Lake City, Utah 84123	
6	(801) 519-9772 willmorrison01@gmail.com	
7	FOR THE PLAINTIFF:	
8	Steven W. Call	
9	Attorney at Law Ray, Quinney & Nebeker	
10	36 S. State Street Suite 1400	
11	Salt Lake Citv. Utah 84111	
12	(801) 532-1500 (801) 532-7543 (fax) scall@rqn.com	
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	Document Page 3 of 87□ In re Allen Beal Volume 2 *	October 24, 2019	104
1	INDEX		
2		PAGE	
3	JANENE TANNER		×
4	Direct Examination by Mr. Call	107	
5	Cross-Examination by Mr. Morrison	133	i.
6	Redirect Examination by Mr. Call	143	
7	RUSSELL JONES		
8	Direct Examination by Mr. Call	146	on and the second secon
9	Cross-Examination by Mr. Morrison	158	
10	Redirect Examination by Mr. Call	160	The state of the s
11	GARY GFELLER		
12	Direct Examination by Mr. Call	161	66.
13	Cross-Examination by Mr. Morrison	184	
14	Redirect Examination by Mr. Call	213	
15	25		
16	* * *		
17			100 A
18			Amministration of the control of the
19			
20			
21			100 mm m m m m m m m m m m m m m m m m m
22			· ·
23			
24	et et en		
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1	PROCEEDINGS
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3	THE CLERK: Please be seated.
4	In the matters of State Bank of Southern
5	Utah versus Beal and Allen Beal.
6	THE COURT: Why don't we get appearances
7	of counsel again today, okay?
8	MR. CALL: Steve Call appearing on behalf
9	of State Bank of Southern Utah.
10	MR. MORRISON: Will Morrison for Mr. Beal.
11	THE COURT: All right. Mr. Call, do you
12	wish to call another witness?
13	MR. CALL: I do. I I would ask to call
14	Janene Tanner.
15	THE CLERK: Raise your right hand.
16	(Witness sworn.)
17	THE CLERK: Have a seat at the witness
18	stand. State and spell your name for the record,
19	please.
20	MS. TANNER: Janene Tanner. J-a-n-e-n-e,
21	T-a-n-n-e-r.
22	JANENE TANNER,
23	called as a witness, being first sworn,
24	was examined and testified as follows:
25	



1	EXAMINATION
2	BY MR. CALL:
3	Q. Good afternoon, Janene.
4	A. Hi.
5	Q. Could you tell us what your position is
6	here at the court?
7	A. I am a CM/ECF administrator. So I'm over
8	the electronic filing system. Make sure everything
9	is running properly for the attorneys. And I do some
10	of the attorney training.
11	Q. Okay. And how long have you been doing
12	that?
13	A. Well, I've been with the court for 30
14	years, but probably ten years as the CM/ECF
15	administrator.
16	Q. And prior to giving your testimony today,
17	have you spoken with anyone else about what you would
18	be testifying to today?
19	A. My chief deputy, but
20	Q. Okay. And who is that?
21	A. Gary Gfeller.
22	Q. Okay. Have you reviewed any documents in
23	preparing for your testimony today?
24	A. Not really, no.
25	Q. Okay. So do you you handle what's
1	



1	called the help desk?
2	A. Yes, I do.
3	Q. Okay. And attorneys contact you by phone
4	or e-mail to when they have questions
5	A. Yes.
6	Q or problems?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. Okay. And how frequently do calls come
9	in?
10	A. It depends on the day. Today's been
11	rather quiet. I've had a couple calls. So depending
12	on the issues that the attorneys are having. So it
13	varies from day to day.
14	Q. And do do the are there more e-mails
15	that come in than calls, or more calls?
16	A. I would say more calls than e-mails 'cause
17	usually they want some an instant answer to the
18	issue.
19	Q. Okay. And you're familiar with the log-in
20	process that filers use in making a filing with the
21	bankruptcy court?
22	A. Yes. Uh-huh.
23	Q. Okay. And are you familiar with the
24	different types of browsers that are used to log into
25	the filing system?



A. Yeah, I'm familiar with them.

- Q. And do many of the users that file in -- or that log in and file documents with the bankruptcy court, do they use Google Chrome?
 - A. Several of them do, yes.
- Q. So there shouldn't be a problem with an attorney logging into the system to make a filing using Google Chrome?

MR. MORRISON: Object -- sorry. I was going to object. It calls for evidence that is -- hasn't been presented, and I believe she lacks foundation, but...

MR. CALL: Well, I think it has been presented in evidence and -- we have had Exhibit 15 admitted and there was testimony concerning the browser.

THE COURT: I'm going to overrule the objection.

- Q. (BY MR. CALL) Okay. Would you look at what's been marked as Exhibit 15?
 - A. Okay.
- Q. Okay. I'll indicate to you that that is the version of the browser that I, as Bank counsel, used on April 22nd of this year to log into the system.



You don't have any understanding that --1 that using what was the most current version of 2 3 Google would have been a problem at that time, do 4 you? 5 Α. No. 6 0. In fact, wouldn't it have been normal for -- wouldn't you have expected that a -- that a 7 user would use a more current version of a browser? 8 9 I don't know as far as a current version, Α. 10 but -- 'cause everybody's systems are a little bit 11 different on what they've upgraded to, so... 12 Q. Okay. Did -- did you receive a call from Carrie Hurst on the morning of April 23rd? 13 14 Α. Yes, I did. 15 And did she report to you that there had Q. 16 been some problems with a filing -- attempted filing 17 the evening before? 18 Α. She reported that, but it was my understanding that it was mostly that the payment 19 20 couldn't be made. 21 Q. Okay. 22 Α. So I told her how to go about making a 23 payment. 24 0. Okay. And -- and what did -- how did you 25 tell her to make the payment?



1	Α.	Normally if the attorney doesn't pay the
2	fees that d	ay, if they log into their filing account,
3	the payment	window comes up for them to pay.
4		Or there's another avenue; they can go
5	into utilit	ies and there is an option, Internet
6	Payments Du	e, and they can select that and make their
7	payments th	at way.
8	Q.	And was that payment made?
9	Α.	Yes, it was.
10	Q.	And was that approximately 9:00?
11	Α.	It was yeah, roughly around that time.
12	Yes.	×
13	Q.	Was it?
14		Would you look at Exhibit the Bank's
15	Exhibit Num	ber 10?
16	Α.	Okay.
17	Q.	Do you see that notification?
18	Α.	Uh-huh.
19	Q.	Can you describe what that is?
20	Α.	Well, it looks like the e-mail
21	notificatio	n. It says it's coming from PayServ,
22	that tha	t the transaction went through.
23	Q.	Okay.
24	Α.	The payment of 350 for the
25	Q.	And when you say PayServ, are you



1	referring to Pay.gov?
2	A. Oh, not PayServ. Yes, Pay.gov. I'm
3	sorry.
4	Q. Okay. And is the normal payment procedure
5	with with Pay.gov?
6	A. Yes, it is.
7	Q. And is that a different system than the
8	EMC [sic] system?
9	A. Yes, it's totally different from the
10	filing system.
11	Q. Okay. And so when someone is using the
12	EMC system, if a payment's to be made that then
13	isn't that payment required to be made through
14	Pay.gov?
15	A. Yes, it is.
16	Q. And if Pay.gov were not working properly
17	for some reason, what would occur if a filing let
18	me back up and restate that.
19	If a if a filer was attempting to make
20	a payment of \$350, let's say, to open an adversary,
21	and if the window did not come up, then what what
22	would a user do at that time, do you know?
23	A. I don't know well, they would have
24	to they if it didn't come up, they would
25	need probably call the court. But I don't know



that I've seen the pay window not come up when a fee's incurred with -- with any debt that's being filed.

- Q. Okay. So let me -- let me show you here what's marked as Exhibit 3. And we have it as the Bank's Exhibit 3. It's on a board here.
- A. Yes.

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- Q. Can you see that okay?
- 9 A. Uh-huh.
- 10 Q. Okay. You're familiar with that --
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 | Q. -- screen?
- 13 A. Right.
- Q. Okay. And is it your -- can you explain to the Court and to me what that screen represents?
 - A. Well, it's just one of the steps in the opening of an adversary case that that fee window will come up indicating how much is -- will be due after the Complaint is totally filed.
- 20 Q. Okay.
 - A. So that's just basically an information screen.
- Q. Okay. And so if -- if a user files the next screen there on -- or the Next button there -- THE COURT: Did you say Exhibit 3? I



1 can't see the lower corner of it. 2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Page 20. 3 THE COURT: All right. So Exhibit 3, 4 page 20, is the one Ms. Tanner just testified to. 5 Okay. 6 0. (BY MR. CALL) So at this stage of a 7 filing, where it says Open Adversary Proceeding, if a 8 user were to put -- push the Next button, is it your 9 understanding that the Pay.gov should open up so that 10 payment can be made, or what's your understanding? 11 Α. No, it -- it doesn't show up there. I 12 don't know exactly what the next screen is, but it's always been, with CM/ECF that the filing gets 13 14 completely done before the fee is taken -- or 15 incurred. 16 And then being able to pay after the fee 17 is -- or being paid after the case has been opened --18 or the adversary proceeding -- the fee window's 19 That way, when you click on the pay window, 20 it will take you out to Pay.gov so that you can make 21 that fee payment. 22 Q. So if a user reaches this stage of Okav. 23 the filing process and clicks Next and it doesn't 24 proceed to the next window, would that indicate that 25 the system was not working correctly?



- A. It's possible.
- Q. Okay. Is there any other explanation?
- 3 A. Well -- I mean, I don't know. I mean --
- 4 | but -- if you hit the next window -- I mean the Next
- 5 | button you're going to -- well, get another screen.
- 6 And I'm assuming that if it didn't -- you couldn't
- 7 get to the Next button, the system would throw up an
- 8 | error that is, you know, some kind of an issue.
- 9 Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the demand
- 10 | window screen in the filing --
- 11 A. Yes.

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- 12 | Q. -- of -- of an adversary proceeding?
- 13 A. Yes. Uh-huh.
- Q. Okay. And do you -- do you see Exhibit 3
- 15 here that's blown up on the left side?
- 16 A. Yes.

- Q. I don't have the page number, but it's part of Exhibit 3. And do you see there where it says "demand" and then it has parentheticals with a dollar sign and three zeros?
 - A. Yes. Uh-huh.
- Q. Okay. And is it -- is there anything on this page or anywhere -- well, on this page that would indicate that the dollar sign -- well, let me just ask you. What's your interpretation of how --



- looking at that document, what's your interpretation as to how a demand amount would be entered into that box?
- A. Well, I'm familiar with the CM/ECF system. So depending on what your demand amount is on your complain -- I mean on your Complaint, then you would put in the figures. It's, say, you know 150,000, you just put in 150, because the system already -- the system is set up to add the rest of the three zeroes.
- Q. Okay. And what about -- doesn't it indicate within the parenthetical there that a dollar sign is to be added?
- A. Well, I don't know if that's the assumption to be made. I mean, when we were trained it's -- we didn't put in the dollar sign.
- Q. But on -- but on this page you wouldn't dispute that -- I mean, it's pretty clear from its face that the dollar sign was within the parenthetical.
 - A. Well, it's within the parenthetical.
- Q. Okay. Are you aware of errors that occur if someone puts in a dollar sign before a demand amount?
- A. Yeah, there's a -- yeah. You'll get an error.



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0. So it's your testimony, then, that Okav. if the dollar sign is placed in front of a demand amount that you will not -- that a user is not able to proceed to the next screen? Α. Right. Q. Okay. Do you know why -- has there ever been a discussion about correcting that parenthetical to show the dollar sign outside of the parenthetical or to add something indicating that no dollar sign should be added? Maybe there's been discussions, but when Α. the system was created, the dollar sign automatically is just populated. So a user doesn't have to even input that. 0. So is there --THE COURT: Mr. Call, I think we may need some foundation about this system. Your questioning suggests that this is a program created by this court, right? MR. CALL: No, I -- it -- my understanding is that it's -- well, not created by the court but it's --



there's ever been any discussions about changing that

system, suggesting that she somehow has the ability

THE COURT: Well, you asked Ms. Tanner if

1 to even have input into that. 2 MR. CALL: Oh. 3 THE COURT: So I'm -- what I'm saying is without the foundation, I think the questioning can 4 5 be confusing, because the way I heard the question 6 was that she had the ability to somehow alter this 7 program. 8 MR. CALL: Well, can I clari --9 THE COURT: Yes. MR. CALL: Let me clarify. 10 So, Janene, you don't have the ability to 11 0. 12 alter the screens that we've been discussing, do you? 13 Α. This was a program created by our No. administrative offices, so no. 14 15 0. Not the administrative offices here --16 Α. No. 17 0. -- within --18 Α. In Washington, D.C. 19 0. In Washington, D.C. 20 It's used all over the country, CM/ECF. Α. 21 And do you make recommendations Q. 22 occasionally to the administration office? 23 Α. Occasionally -- occasionally there's been 24 recommendations all around the country --Q. 25 Okay.



- A. -- for things to -- maybe to approve on.
- Q. Has there been a recommendation with respect to the demand screen?
 - A. Not that I'm aware of.
- Q. Let me ask you about commas. Are you aware that if a demand amount is put in and a comma is put in whether or not the system would advance?
 - A. No, it won't. You'll get an error.
- Q. Okay. So if a comma is put into a demand amount, then an error will arise, correct?
 - A. Correct.

- Q. And what if a period is put into the demand window; is the same true?
 - A. I believe so.
- Q. Okay. So would it be your testimony that the only way that a demand amount could be placed into that box without -- without receiving an error would be to put in a number without a dollar sign, without a comma and without a period?
 - A. Correct.
- Q. And if -- if a number is placed into that demand and if it doesn't move forward to the next screen because, let's say, there's a dollar sign on the demand, is there not a Back button that a person can push to back up to the prior screen?



Well, I think if you get the error, it 1 Α. 2 allows you to correct that. 0. Okay. So if it ---3 But you could hit the Back button and... Α. 4 Okay. And clear the number? 5 0. Yeah. 6 Α. Do you know if the -- when the 7 Okav. Q. error arises if it clears the screen or does the user 8 have to clear the screen? When I say "clear the 9 screen," clear the demand. 10 I believe the user has to clear the demand 11 Α. 12 and put in the... So a user having a number in there that 13 0. receives an error -- let's say that the number -- a 14 dollar sign with the number 156 -- or 168 is put 15 16 into there --17 Α. Uh-huh. -- your testimony is it would never 18 0. advance to the next screen because there's a dollar 19 20 sign, correct? 21 Α. Correct. And so at that time the user would either 22 0. have to go in and delete the numbers in that box or 23 else back up to an earlier screen and -- and move 24 25 back, correct?



Document Page 20 of $87\square$ In re Allen Beal Volume 2 * October 24, 2019 Α. 1 Right. 2 Are you familiar with the term "cache"? 0. 3 Α. Yes. And what does that mean to you? 4 0. The information, I guess, that's saved in 5 Α. 6 the browser. Especially if attorneys are having issues, if -- I'll get calls and they can't move 7 forward or there's an error that just keeps repeating 8 themself, we tell them to clear their browsing 9 history, which is their cache, and get rid of all the 10 information that might be behind the scenes causing 11 the issue -- the problem. And usually once they do 12 that, then they can move forward and complete their 13 docket that they are doing. 14 Thank you for that explanation. 15 0. Okav. How -- so you're saying that the user 16 wouldn't see the information or data in the cache; is 17 that correct? 18 19 Α. That's correct. And that you would instruct them that in 20 Q. 21

- order to clear the cache that they should go back --
 - Α. Well, not --

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- -- or clear the cache or -- how do they 0. clear the cache?
 - Α. Yeah, clear the cache.



Well, every browser is different and -- so they would have to know how to do it. Either -- at the top of the browser there's a place where they can -- it has where you click on in -- at the top of the browser, wherever, there's an option to clear their history, and they could do it for an hour, they could it for all day, but...

Q. So if a user put in a dollar number -- a

- Q. So if a user put in a dollar number -- a dollar sign with a number of 168 and received an error, and then the box was clear, the user wouldn't necessarily know whether the cache is cleared or not; is that correct?
 - A. No.

- Q. So there could actually be hidden numbers in the box that the user can't find?
 - A. Well --
- 0. Or doesn't see?
- A. I don't know about hidden numbers, especially in that demand amount. You're -- you say you got -- I mean, the error is going to pop up. Usually when attorneys have an error, they can't move forward at all, and so they have to clear out their browsing history. But we, you know, discussed before that the dollar sign -- that error came up, but something needed to be changed.



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1 0. Riaht. So at the top it has a button that 2 says History, and you're saying that when people call 3 in you can explain to them that they can clear their 4 history? 5 Α. Yeah. I guess if you look -- because you've got the screenshot there of Google. There is 6 the three dots at the top -- top right-hand... 8 0. Uh-huh. Α. And usually that's -- when you click on those three buttons there's the option that comes up for history as one of them. So they could go through the steps to clear out the history. Q. But there's nothing on the screen, is there --No. Α. 0. -- that says that if you have a problem, this is how you -- you would clear the cache, correct? Α. No. Q. But -- and you -- you've affirmatively agreed that it -- you cannot move to the other screens and complete a filing if you cannot get past the demand screen? It's been my experience and -- that you Α.



could leave that demand amount blank and it will let

1 you go through to the next screen. 2 Q. You --3 Α. You don't have to put a number in there. 4 Q. That's been your experience? 5 Α. Yes. So do you know, under the system, does 6 0. filing of the Complaint occur before the adversary 7 8 proceeding is opened, or is the adversary proceeding 9 opened before the Complaint is filed? 10 Α. Well, there's --11 Q. Is it simultaneous? 12 Α. It's simultaneous. I mean, that's... So if -- if a document says that the 13 Q. 14 adversary proceeding opens, then that would -- that 15 would mean that there was a complaint filed 16 simultaneously with that entry? 17 Α. Because your -- your complaint is the 18 document that's getting uploaded into the system, 19 which is, you know, the adversary proceeding. 20 once it is simultaneous, your complaint is what 21 you're using to open up the adversary, because that 22 has all the information that you're putting into the 23 system. But then once that's all completed and you 24 go through the steps, then your adversary is open. 25 So the -- you wouldn't have to open Q. Okay.



an adversary proceeding, pay the fee and then file the complaint?

In re Allen Beal Volume 2 * October 24, 2019

- A. No, it doesn't work that way.
- Q. Instead, the complaint -- the complaint and the adversary open simultaneously?
- A. Yeah.

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- Q. Okay. Let me show you -- okay. Okay.
 8 Are you familiar with what a transaction log is?
 - A. Yes. Uh-huh.
- 10 Q. Okay. Could you explain to the Court what 11 that is?
- A. It identifies the steps or behind the scenes of what happened when the case is opened or a docket entry is put on the docket. It gives you an ID number and the event that was used to -- to be put onto the docket.
 - Q. Okay. And so looking at Exhibit 14, could you identify that for us, starting on the left-hand side, to the yellow? Do you see where it has the number?
 - A. Yeah, it has the date.
- Q. Well, before the date it has the number.
- 23 | Is that the adversary -- what number is that?
- A. On the yellow, that's the transaction ID.
- 25 Q. Okay.



That's not the adversary number at all. 1 Α. 2 That's the transaction ID. Every entry that's put on 3 the -- in the system has a transaction ID. That identifies that particular --4 Q. Okay. 5 Α. Yes. -- transaction entry? 6 Q. 7 Α. Yes. And then the date. What does that 8 0. reflect, the time that that transaction number is 9 10 recorded? Yes. Uh-huh. 11 Α. Okay. And you call -- that's called a 12 Q. 13 log: is that right? Α. Yeah. Your transaction log, yes. 14 Okay. And then next to that there's 0. 15 nothing in the case number there, but then go to the 16 right. Could you read that for me? 17 This is a temporary log entry to handle 18 Α. timing issues with docketing the same event many 19 20 times. Have you seen that entry before? Q. 21 22 Not recently. Α. Do you have a memory of ever seeing that 23 Q. 24 entry?



Not really, no.

25

Α.

- Q. And when that entry -- the information -- can you tell me what your understanding would be as to that language?

 A. Well, it's timing issues with docketing
- the same event many times. So -- I mean, the entry
 -- two entries above that the -- it looks like the
 adversary proceeding was open and the summons was
 issued. And so just by that, by maybe clicking the
 Back button, it's recording that the event that's
 been entered has already been entered before 'cause
 it's --
 - Q. So it wouldn't happen in a normal filing, right, because it --
 - A. No, not in the normal finding.
 - Q. Had there not been repeated attempts --
 - A. Right.

- Q, -- then that entry -- that sort of log would not have occurred, correct?
 - A. Right. Right.
 - Q. So doesn't that occur to you that that log entry is to document that there were (counsel stepped away from mic) timing issues with docketing the same event many times?
 - A. But -- yes, but if you look at your other transaction IDs that happened before that, the





Q.

that report is?

1 Α. There's a cases report option under CM/ECF 2 under reports and you can put a date range in there 3 for cases that were filed on a given day. 4 Q. Okay. Would you turn to Exhibit 11 in the 5 Bank's exhibit book there in front of you? 6 Α. Okay. 7 0. So can you identify what that document is? 8 There's an excerpt of it here on the board, but the 9 Exhibit 14 is a little bit more -- or Exhibit 11 has a little more detail. Can you tell us what that is? 10 11 It's off of the cases report that gives Α. 12 you the -- well, these are the adversary case numbers 13 that were filed and who the party info is and the 14 attorney information. 15 0. And is this a report that's generated from the -- the court's database? 16 17 Α. Yeah. Of what's been filed, yes. 18 0. So the attorneys don't have the ability to 19 go in and manipulate this document, do they? 20 Α. Huh-uh. No. 21 Q. It would be only generated by the court, 22 correct? 23 Correct. Α. 24 And vou've seen this -- these kind of 0. 25 reports -- you've actually used this report -- case



1	report identification yourself on occasion?
2	A. Correct.
3	Q. So would you look here at an excerpt of
4	this report here and just identify we can go
5	across this row. You see there in the the center
6	column again of Exhibit 11 is it first showing
7	there the what is that, the lead the first
8	number here, is this the adversary?
9	A. That's the adversary case number. And
10	then it shows the lead bankruptcy case number
11	Q. Okay.
12	A which is
13	Q. Allen Beal, Chapter 7?
14	A. Right.
15	Q. And then going to the next column there,
16	the TP?
17	A. It shows first it shows the plaintiff
18	information, which is the State Bank of Southern Utah
19	versus Beal. And then they have the attorney that's
20	representing the plaintiff, Steven W. Call. Then the
21	attorney for well, another attorney for the
22	plaintiff, Justin Michael Kuettel. And attorney for
23	the defendant, William B. Morrison.
24	Q. Right. And then next is
25	A. It's the judge who is involved.



- Q. Right. And then explain for us, if you will, what the next box -- what the next boxes represent.

 A. There's a file date of 4-23 and an enter
 - A. There's a file date of 4-23 and an enter date of 4-22.
 - Q. Okay.
 - A. And -

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- Q. And then what are the -- okay. Let me ask you, have you ever seen an occasion where those two dates are different?
 - A, I haven't,
- Q. Okay. And just the final part of that row is other information that just reflects this is the Salt Lake office, right?
 - A. That is correct. Uh-huh.
- Q. Now, it -- it's my understanding that -that the ECF manual for the district court is revised
 and updated quite regularly, but that there hasn't
 been a revision made to the ECF manual with the
 bankruptcy court for more than a decade. Is that
 correct?
 - A. That's true.
- Q. And is it also accurate that at one time Kyle Quail, you and Carol began a process a few years ago to update the manual but that that was abandoned?



Well, I think you have your parties wrong 1 Α. 2 there, but... Well, I thought these were the names you 3 Q. gave me when we visited. Who is Kyle Quail? 4 Α. It's Kyle Crockett. 5 Oh, Crockett. I'm sorry. 0. 6 Α. Yeah. 7 Kyle Crockett and Carol --8 0. The Jared Johnson and John Willardson. 9 Α. four of us worked on... 10 Gerald Johnson? 11 0. Jared. 12 Α. 13 Q. Jared. And who was the other person? 14 John Willardson. 15 Α. 16 Q. John Willardson. And you worked on some re -- possible 17 revisions to the manual -- this was in 2014? 18 Yeah, something. Around there, yes. 19 Α. But my understanding was that those 20 0. efforts were never completed. Is that a better 21 22 statement? The assignments and duties changed of 23 individuals so we never did complete it. But CM/ECF, 24 at least with the bankruptcy court, the procedures 25



In re Allen Beal Volume 2 * October 24, 2019 never -- and the steps never really changed that much. So we didn't really find it of benefit to keep it updated. Do you have copies of the revisions that **Q**. you all started on, to the manual? I probably could find them, but I don't -we didn't get really that far into it. Do you ever coordinate with the district Q. court regarding its revisions and updating to its manual? No, we don't because -- yeah, their filing Α.

systems are CM/ECF, but the way they file documents and their type of pleadings, they are totally different from the bankruptcy court.

> MR. CALL: Okay. Okay. Thank you. CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. MORRISON:

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Let's see. So this document here, 0. Okav. Exhibit 11 that we have blown up here, I just wanted to ask you a quick question about the file date. (Counsel stepped away from mic).

THE CLERK: Mr. Morrison, you'll need to speak into a microphone.

> Okay. Sorry. MR. MORRISON:

So you -- you saw where I was pointing on Q.



In re Allen Beal Volume 2 * October 24, 2019

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- 2 A. Yes.
 - Q. Thank you.

Do you see the filing date was April 23rd, and then there's a different enter date of 4-22-19?

Do you have an understanding of why those dates might be different in this particular case?

A. The report we -- the report is really -- I mean, it's just a report. What we real -- go by and -- 'cause not all the reports, you know, are -- are perfect. And there has been other issues with, you know, different reports -- not necessarily this one but with other reports that you run.

What's -- we go by and what I tell the attorneys when I'm training them is, You need to look -- and we discussed this yesterday -- the notice of electronic filing. And I believe Gloria gave you, you know, an example of that. And that gives the attorneys the date and the time of when their document was filed with the court.

And I stress in the trainings that we have them -- especially if they are new on filing with the court -- that they need to make sure that they get that notice of electronic filing to, you know, indicate to them and to the court that their document

1	or pleading entry got put on the court's docket.
2	Q. Okay. Very good. And the term there
3	that's used as filed, is that referring to the filing
4	of the Adversary Complaint?
5	A. Yeah, that's what you would take from
6	that.
7	Q. Okay. And then what does the term
8	"entered" refer to, if you know?
9	A. I would like I say, the reports
10	THE COURT: So he said if you know,
11	Ms. Tanner.
12	MR. MORRISON: Yeah.
13	MR. CALL: I'm going to object for lack of
14	foundation.
15	THE WITNESS: I don't know.
16	MR. MORRISON: That's why I was asking if
17	she knew.
18	THE WITNESS: No.
19	THE COURT: And she was trying to answer
20	and I was just making sure she understood
21	MR. MORRISON: Yes.
22	THE COURT: "if you know."
23	MR. MORRISON: Yes.
24	Q. And your response, just so we have a
25	record of that, was you don't know?



In re Allen Beal Volume 2 * October 24, 2019 I don't. Α. 1 2 Okay. Thank you. Q. All right. I believe that you testified 3 that you help -- you're one of the individuals that 4 helps man the help desk at the court. Is that right? 5 6 Α. Yes. And what are the hours of operation for 7 0. the help desk, typically? 8 Typically 8:00 to 4:30, but usually I'm 9 Α. here later. So it could be after 5:00. 10 Okay. And is the help desk 24/7 hours of Q. 11 12 operation or does it end when you go home? 13 It ends when I go home, yes. Α. Okay. It's not going to be open at 14 Q. 11:50 p.m.? 15 16 Α. No. I kind of would like a life after I 17 leave the court. Q. Thank you. 18 Okav. And you're involved in the -- in the 19 training for users that use the CM/ECF system --20 21 filing system? Correct. 22 Α. Is that one of your main responsibilities? 23 Q. I wouldn't say "main," but it's one of my 24 Α.



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duties.

1	Q. Okay. Very good.
2	How often do you perform training
3	services?
4	A. Once a month.
5	Q. Do you know or can do you recall if you
6	might have trained Mr. Call in in using that
7	that service?
8	A. No, I wasn't training at that time. We
9	had other trainers involved.
10	Q. Very good.
11	THE COURT: What time?
12	MR. MORRISON: At the time that he would
13	have done the training.
14	THE COURT: Do you have any idea when that
15	was?
16	MR. MORRISON: Well, he testified it was
17	several years ago. That's all that he testified to.
18	Q. So I was just asking if you were involved
19	in in doing any training for Mr. Call.
20	A. No.
21	THE COURT: Thank you.
22	Q. (BY MR. MORRISON) I think you testified
23	that the manual for CM/ECF users has not been updated
24	for approximately ten years or longer.
25	A. Correct.



1	Q. And the reason for that is the steps I
2	think you testified the steps don't change much so
3	there's not really a benefit to completing the
4	revisions?
5	A. Correct.
6	Q. Are you familiar with the old manual going
7	back approximately ten years or so?
8	A. It's been a while since I've looked at it,
9	but
10	Q. You've reviewed it or you had reviewed
11	it at some point?
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. Okay. I guess I just wanted to ask if you
14	were familiar with what the manual might say as far
15	as it being appropriate for the data entry field,
16	when you're entering a demand when you're filing an
17	adversary complaint.
18	A. I do have of course I didn't make
19	copies for everyone. Sometimes maybe the
20	attorneys can't attend our training, and so we'll
21	we have a practical exercise. And depending on who
22	the attorneys represent, if they are representing a
23	debtor or a creditor, then we'll give them an
24	exercise on what to do. And one of them, for a
25	creditor, is to open an adversary proceeding. And it



- goes through the steps and what they need to do and the information they need to put in to -- when they open an adversary case.
- Q. Okay. Fair enough. Okay. Turned around the Exhibit 3 -- the blowup of Exhibit 3 -- and I just wanted to get some clarification on your interpretation of the Demand field. How do you interpret what's in parentheses? Is that the information that's already entered into the field?
- A. It is. I mean, base -- because I know how the system works, it -- I know that adding the zeros -- I mean, those zeros there are automatically going to be added after you put in that number of what you're demanding.
- Q. And the dollar sign, likewise, is already going to be added?
- A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. How long have you done training for CM/ECF users for the court?
 - A. Going on three years.
- Q. Has there ever been any point in time during the course of your training that you would train users to put in a dollar sign in that field?
 - A. No, I wouldn't.
- Q. Okay. If a dollar sign had been entered,



1	would that no	ot constitute user error?
2	A. W	Well, it could give you an error.
3	Q. W	What would be the error message?
4	A. I	I'm not for sure what it would be.
5	Q. 0	okay. But you'd seen an error message
6	from that?	
7	A. Y	es, you would.
8	Q. S	o if you entered a dollar sign, you're
9	going to get	an error message, which tells you that
10	you are not e	entering in the correct information?
11	A. C	Correct.
12	Q. A	and you would also get an error message if
13	you entered a	comma in that field, correct?
14	A. C	Correct.
15	Q. W	hich, once again, tells you that you are
16	not entering	the correct information?
17	A. C	orrect.
18	Q. A	and if you enter a decimal point in that
19	field, once a	gain, that would prompt an error
20	message?	
21	A. C	orrect.
22	Q. B	ecause you're not entering the correct
23	information?	
24	A. R	ight.
25	Q. A	nd the error message is intended to help



you so that you enter the correct information?
A. Correct.
Q. And so you can move forward to the next
screen?
A. Exactly.
Q. In the course of your training for CM/ECF
users, have you ever trained filers to enter a
decimal point when they are entering a number in that
field?
A. No.
Q. Have you ever trained users to enter a
comma in that field?
A. No.
Q. Were you here in court yesterday when
Mr. Call testified?
A. Yes.
Q. And did you hear his testimony as far as
the experience that he had in attempting to file the
Adversary Complaint in this case?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. And did you hear his testimony that
referred to the multiple times that he hit the Back
button?
A. Yes, I did.
Q. Okay. Do you train users to hit the Back



1	button when they experience an error in the course of
2	filing a document?
3	A. It would depend on the error, because in
4	this instance, with the demand amount, because you're
5	getting an error window that comes up, I would
6	don't see the need that you would need to hit the
7	Back button to fix that error.
8	Q. Okay. Very good.
9	So do you have the State State Bank's
10	exhibit binder in front of you?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. And could you open that to Exhibit 3,
13	page page 13? And I think it would be the second
14	doc the second page
15	A. Log-in page? Is that
16	Q. Yes. Does it have a little 13 at the
17	bottom right corner?
18	A. Yes.
19	Q. Okay. Thank you.
20	At the very bottom of that document it
21	says, "CM/ECF has been tested using Firefox and
22	<pre>Internet Explorer," correct?</pre>
23	A. Correct.
24	Q. It doesn't say anything about being tested
25	for Google Chrome?



1	A. No, it doesn't.
2	Q. Okay. I'm just directing your attention
3	to April 23rd, the day after the bar date in this
4	particular case for filing an objection to discharge.
5	Do you recall having any conversations by phone or
6	otherwise with Mr. Call that day?
7	A. I did with Carrie Hurst in the morning
8	regarding the payment.
9	Q. But what about Mr. Call?
10	A. I don't remember. I did speak with
11	Mr. Call, but I don't remember if it was that day or
12	maybe the following day.
13	Q. Okay. I guess the question I had was
14	whether Mr. Call had reported that or, rather,
15	that you told Mr. Call that the problems and error
16	messages that he had received reflect that the
17	software was not operating correctly. Is that
18	something you told Mr. Call?
19	A. No, I didn't.
20	MR. MORRISON: Thank you.
21	Nothing further, your Honor.
22	MR. CALL: Just one question, I think.
23	REDIRECT EXAMINATION
24	BY MR. CALL:



Q.

The debtor has presented as an exhibit in

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this case, one of his few exhibits, the district court manual for electronic filing. It doesn't have any relevancy whatever to filings made in the bankruptcy court, does it? Α. No. Huh-uh. In fact, it doesn't address --0. MR. MORRISON: Your honor -- sorry. I That's beyond the scope of my examination, object. but I have not presented that as an exhibit in this It's not part of our evidentiary exhibits. I'm not trying to --THE COURT: I was trying to -- I was lost, Mr. Call, because, first of all, your reference to it being one of the debtor's exhibits -- it hasn't been discussed before and it's not in the exhibit binder. It was filed -- I believe filed -- provided for with -- it was provided to us as one of your exhibits. And my understanding, you filed it with the court. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Back in July when we were asked to file exhibits -- it would have been filed back then. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, we were given an exhibit -- just to complete it; that manual has no relevance.



1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just don't see how 2 this is relevant. 3 THE COURT: Well, both of you agree. 4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We agree, yes. 5 THE COURT: And you agree too, right, no relevance? 6 7 THE WITNESS: No relevance. THE COURT: All right. Any other 8 9 questions? 10 MR. CALL: No, your Honor. Thank you. 11 THE COURT: You may step down. 12 Does she need to be here? Can she go back 13 to work if she wants? 14 MR. CALL: She -- we can excuse --15 THE COURT: We can excuse her? 16 MR. MORRISON: We'll excuse her. 17 MR. CALL: I will excuse her. 18 THE COURT: I will take a quick recess. 19 THE CLERK: All arise. 20 (Recess taken.) 21 THE CLERK: Court resumes in session. 22 Please be seated. 23 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Call, do you 24 have another witness? 25 MR. CALL: Yes. We would like to call --



1	or I would like to call Russell Jones.
2	THE COURT: Mr. Jones, if you would come
3	forward and be sworn.
4	THE CLERK: Raise your right hand.
5	(Witness sworn.)
6	THE CLERK: Have a seat on the witness
7	stand. State and spell your name for the record,
8	please.
9	THE WITNESS: Russell Jones.
10	R-u-s-s-e-l-l, J-o-n-e-s.
11	RUSSELL JONES,
12	called as a witness, being first sworn,
13	was examined and testified as follows:
14	DIRECT EXAMINATION
15	BY MR. CALL:
16	Q. Thank you.
17	Russell, what is your position with the
18	court?
19	A. Unit system administrator.
20	Q. And how long have you been in that
21	position?
22	A. Twenty years.
23	Q. And what are your duties?
24	A. Maintaining the system, like checking the
25	file space and putting on updates.



	Q. And when you say "updates," updates to
2	what?
3	A. To the database and CM/ECF program.
4	Q. So you are able to are these updates
5	that you program or someone else programs?
6	A. The AO sends those to us.
7	Q. Okay. So you when those updates come,
8	you integrate those into the software?
9	A. Yes.
10	THE COURT: Just so the record is clear, I
11	think Ms. Tanner may have used the acronym AO.
12	Mr. Jones just used the acronym AO. Someone reading
13	the record may not know what AO is.
14	THE WITNESS: Administrative Office of the
15	U.S. Courts. They create the programs and send them
16	to us.
17	THE COURT: Okay.
18	Q. (BY MR. CALL) And so they send them to
19	you via e-mail or in a flash drive?
20	A. They send us an e-mail or notice saying
21	they're available and we can download them from their
22	site.
23	Q. Okay. I see. So that's one of the the
24	duties you perform?
25	A. Uh-huh.



1	Q. Have you spoken with anyone about your
2	testimony today?
3	A. No.
4	Q. Have you reviewed any documents in
5	preparing for your testimony today?
6	A. No.
7	Q. And were you present you've been
8	present in the courtroom today and yesterday when the
9	testimonies were given?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. Okay. So you consider yourself to be
12	quite familiar with the ECF software?
13	A. No.
14	Q. You're not?
15	A. I don't run these screens.
16	THE COURT: Just so the record's clear,
17	he's gesturing towards the demonstrative exhibits
18	THE WITNESS: The CM/ECF
19	THE COURT: posters.
20	THE WITNESS: program.
21	THE COURT: Okay.
22	THE WITNESS: People like Janene take care
23	of that.
24	Q. (BY MR. CALL) But you have some
25	familiarity with these screens, do you not?



- A. Yeah. I've seen them, but I've never been
- Q. You have not? Do you address problems
 that Janene may confront in connection with her
- A. That would be the flow. If users reported a problem to her, then she would report it to me, but
- 9 Q. You don't have a recollection of that ever 10 happening?
- A. No. I'm sure it did in the early days,
 but I can't think of any incidents within the past
 several years.
 - Q. Okay. So if I -- in looking at what's been marked here as Exhibit 3, you understand that that's one of the screens in the ECM --
 - A. ECF.

trained on their use.

helping users?

18 Q. Or ECF filing system?

I can't think of that happening.

19 A. Yeah.

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- Q. And are you familiar with the -- how a user progresses through the system?
- A. Roughly. I know that they would -- on this one, Exhibit 3, they would put in the proper values and select them and then click Next.
 - Q. Okay. And have you -- have you dealt with



- issues where metadata may -- metadata is stored in a cache of the user?
- A. I'm familiar with it.
- 4 Q. And can you explain that, what -- what 5 that is?
 - A. Well, it -- there are different Internet browsers -- or web browsers, they are called, and they have different ways of caching data.
 - Q. Okay.

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- A. And so we know that when people have a problem, if we tell them to clear their cache and start over, that usually takes care of it.
- Q. Okay. So do you happen to know, looking over at Exhibit 3, which is the board on the right, Bates number 20 -- are you familiar with that screen?
 - A. No.
- 17 | Q. No?
- Do you know what screen follows that screen?
- 20 A. No.
- Q. Okay. Coming back to Exhibit 3, over on this left side, do you know whether or not a user can progress or advance to the next screen if a demand amount is not inserted into the demand window?
 - A. No, I'm not familiar with that.



	Q. Okay. Are you familiar with problems
	or are you familiar with the issue about if a number
	is not entered in a certain manner that the window
	will not progress or advance?
	A. No, I'm not familiar with that, but it
	seems like that would happen. If it was required, it
	would tell you it would prompt you.
	Q. With an error message?
	A. Perhaps.
	Q. What other prompt would there be besides
	an error message?
0.000	A. For example, when I've done some
	testing that there's a box where you can upload a
	document. And then if you go next, it says you need
	to you can enter a document or upload a document.
	It looks like a an error or a problem, but
	actually you can just say that's okay, that was my
	intention not to do it.
	Q. Okay. Okay. Let me show you here what's
	been marked as Exhibit 11 and Exhibit 14 of the
and the same of the same	Bank's exhibits. Are you familiar with what a case
3	report is?
2000.000	A. Yes.
	Q. Okay. Can you describe what your
The Control of the	understanding of that report is?



1	A. You can put in a date range and the
2	like the type of case or the chapter, and it will
3	show you the ones that were entered or filed
4	Q. Okay.
5	A during that time period.
6	Q. Okay. And you said you used the term
7	"entered or filed"; is that right?
8	A. Yeah. I believe you can select those
9	different entered or filed dates.
10	Q. Oh, I see. Okay.
11	And on this particular Exhibit 11, do you
12	see in the center column there that it is referring
13	to this the case at issue here before the Court?
14	A. Okay.
15	Q. The State Bank?
16	A. Yeah. I was never told the case numbers,
17	but okay.
18	Q. Okay. Do you see the in the columns
19	there in the first column it identifies the
20	adversary proceeding, the bankruptcy case number?
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. Okay. So if you go over to the fourth
23	column let's see, one you see the second column
24	says AP?
25	A. Yeah.



1	Q. Do you know what that stands for?
2	A. I think it means adversary proceeding, the
3	type of case.
4	Q. And then you see the party information in
5	the next column?
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. And then the the judge has signed the
8	adversary proceeding?
9	A. Yeah.
10	Q. Okay. And then in the next column there
11	it has the dates, correct?
12	A. Correct.
13	Q. And what are those dates? What's your
14	understanding as to what those dates are?
15	A. The "entered" is when it was physically
16	entered onto the system, and "filed" is, like, when
17	it was filed with the court.
18	Q. 0kay.
19	A. So, for example, if someone comes in very
20	late in the day and they submit something over the
21	counter, they won't have the case managers will
22	wait until the next day or the next workday to enter
23	it. So they would put the filing date as the day
24	they received it, but the entered date would be the
25	date when the case manager put it on the system.



So in this case if it says 1 Q. Okav. something was entered on the 22nd, is that --2 would -- am I understanding that that would have been 3 a date that it would have been entered? 4 Well, it's my understanding that for 5 Α. outside users, like attorneys and trustees, that the 6 7 filed and entered dates will always be the same. They will always be the same? So in this 8 Q. particular case they are not the same, are they? 9 No. 10 Α. And would you -- do you -- do you 11 Q. Okav. 12 have any reason -- well, strike that. Will you look over at Exhibit 14? 13 14 Α. Okay. Do you know what a transaction log is? 15 Q. 16 Α. Yes. And what is it? 17 Q. 18 A log of the actions that take place on Α. 19 the system. So you're familiar with that -- that 20 0. 21 report? Yes, somewhat. 22 Α. And do you see there on the third 23 Okay. 0. row that's highlighted in yellow the -- a log entry 24 25 that was made?



Yes. Α. 1 And do you see on the left-hand 2 Okav. 0. side it has the ID number? And I believe you heard 3 Janene testify that that's a specific ID number for 4 that particular entry? 5 6 Α. Yeah. And then next to it has a date -- a date 7 0. of that particular entry. Do you see that? 8 9 Α. Yes. Now, isn't it accurate that that would 10 0. have been the date that that particular item was 11 logged into the system on the database? 12 13 Α. Yes. Okay. And then if I go over there to the 14 0. far right column, could you read that language? 15 "This is a temporary log entry" -- that --Α. 16 "to handle timing issues." 17 Yeah, would you read that whole --18 0. Okav. This is a --19 Α. Can I just have you speak into the 20 Q. 21 microphone? Okay. "This is a temporary log entry to 22 Α. 23 handle timing issues with docketing the same event 22196349." 24 many times. Have you ever seen that log-in entry 25 Q.



A. Once in a while.

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Q. Okay. Now, what -- what is it referring to, do you know? Do you have -- do you have an understanding of it? I'm not asking you to speculate. If you know, then I'd like you to tell us.

A. Well -- no, I don't know exactly when.

Q. Do you have an understanding?

A. I have a -- well, it could possibly occur for different things, but my understanding is, is when someone uses the back arrow and forward arrow and the Next, they try to resubmit something they have already re -- they have already submitted. So it's basically saying you already submitted this, so I'm not going to do it again.

- Q. Okay. And is that what it's referring to where it says "docketing the same event many times"?
 - A. I presume.
- Q. Is that -- I think that -- isn't that what you just testified to?
- A. Well --

THE COURT: I heard what he said,

24 Mr. Call.

MR. CALL: Okay.



THE COURT: He said he didn't know. He 1 said he has an understanding and he's not -- and he 2 presumes that it might be something. 3 THE WITNESS: I'm not an expert on all of 4 these. 5 Okay. 6 THE COURT: (BY MR. CALL) You -- you weren't involved 7 0. with any sort of recommendations regarding the 8 updating of the manual, were you? 9 Α. No. 10 Now, do you recall a telephone call 11 0. Okav. that you and I had on April 23rd? 12 13 Α. Yes. Okay. And did I not report to you that I 14 Q. had encountered problems in attempting to make a 15 16 filing? 17 Α. Yes, you did. And did we -- did I not report to you 18 0. certain error messages that I received during the 19 20 filing process? 21 Yeah, I think I remember about the Α. non-integer or missing value or something. 22 Okay. And we had a discussion about that 23 Q. 24 problem, correct? 25 Α. Yes.



1	Q. And did you not give me an explanation
2	about problems that occur when the backup button is
3	used?
4	A. Well, I'm aware that they can happen, so
5	I that's what that would be usually what my
6	standard recommendation to an end user would be, is
7	to clear their cache or start over.
8	Q. Okay. And did you not indicate that
9	that in those events that sometimes backing up to a
10	single screen just simply doesn't solve the problem
11	and that you told me that you need to go back to the
12	blue screen or log out and re-log in?
13	A. Yeah, I I think I said that.
14	MR. CALL: Thank you.
15	CROSS-EXAMINATION
16	BY MR. MORRISON:
17	Q. Hello, Mr. Jones. I don't have a lot of
18	questions for you. Just a couple questions,
19	actually.
20	Let's start with this conversation that
21	you had with Mr. Call on April 23rd.
22	Did you ever tell Mr. Call that the
23	problems that he was reporting were due to ECF
24	software malfunctioning or not working properly?
25	A. No.



1	Q. Okay. Looking at this blowup of
2	Exhibit 11, do you know do you know why the filed
3	and entered date, which are highlighted in yellow
4	there, are different in this particular case?
5	THE COURT: Well, it's been asked and
6	answered, but go ahead. I'll allow the question.
7	Q. (BY MR. MORRISON) Do you know why those
8	dates are different?
9	A. The only reason I know is because we had a
10	prior meeting, and Mr. Gfeller found the reason.
11	It's just a quirk of that report.
12	Q. Okay. And he would be a better person to
13	testify to that, then?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. Okay. Thank you.
16	Are you familiar with the error message
17	case opening failed, writing answer record? Are you
18	familiar with that?
19	A. No.
20	MR. MORRISON: Okay. Thank you.
21	Nothing further, your Honor.
22	THE COURT: All right. Any other
23	questions, Mr. Call?
24	*
25	*



1		REDIRECT EXAMINATION
2	BY MR. CALL:	
3	Q.	Are you able to tell us or give us a
4	list of the	different error messages that come up
5	under the E	under the ECF system?
6	Α.	Huh-uh. I could research that.
7	Q.	Okay. But you don't know those today, do
8	you?	
9	Α.	No.
10	Q.	But aren't there several?
11	Α.	Yeah.
12		MR. CALL: Okay. Thank you.
13		THE COURT: All right. You may step down,
14	Mr. Jones.	
15		And he may be excused as well?
16		MR. CALL: Yes.
17		MR. MORRISON: Yes.
18		THE COURT: All right. Do you have
19	another wit	ness, Mr. Call?
20		MR. CALL: Well, I I guess we would
21	call Gary G	feller.
22		THE COURT: All right, Mr. Gfeller, if you
23	would come	forward, please.
24		(Witness sworn.)
25		THE CLERK: Be seated at the witness



1	stand. State and spell your name for the record,	
2	please.	
3	MR. GFELLER: Gary Gfeller. G-a-r-y,	
4	G-f-e-l-l-e-r.	
5	GARY GFELLER,	
6	called as a witness, being first sworn,	
7	was examined and testified as follows:	
8	DIRECT EXAMINATION	
9	BY MR. CALL:	
10	Q. Thank you, Gary. May I call you Gary?	
11	A. Yes, you may.	
12	Q. Okay, Gary. What is your position with	
13	the court?	
14	A. I am the chief deputy, and I'm also the	
15	acting IT manager.	
16	Q. Okay. And how long have you been doing	
17	that?	
18	A. In this court I have been doing that since	
19	November 30th of 2015.	
20	Q. And before that did you do something	
21	similar with a different court?	
22	A. Yes. I've had I've been with the	
23	courts U.S. courts, and particularly in the	
24	bankruptcy courts, for about 27 years.	
25	Before this I was the a little over	



three years as a clerk of court in the Connecticut 1 2 bankruptcy court. Prior to that was the IT manager with 3 primary responsibility for the ECF system and the --4 and its predecessor. That was 15 years in there. 5 And then I was -- spent five years in the 6 7 Ohio northern bankruptcy as the IT manager for that 8 court. So in preparing for your testimony today, 9 0. have you spoken to anyone about what you would be 10 11 testifying to? Α. 12 No. Okay. So no conversations with Russell or 13 0. with Janene or with Gloria? 14 I've talked to them a little bit about 15 Α. 16 certain things, yes. Regarding this case? 17 Q. Yes. Α. 18 Okay. And when did those conversations 19 Q. 20 occur? So they've occurred this morning. They 21 Α. occurred after noon. They occurred even before this. 22 I mean, we've talked about this -- the issue since we 23 had the meeting a couple weeks ago. 24 So since we had the meeting you've 25 Q. Okay.



In re Allen Beal Volume 2 * October 24, 2019 spoken with -- with Janene -- with Janene? 1 2 Α. Janene, Russ, yeah. And with Russ. Did you speak with Gloria? 3 0. And it's primarily because these 4 Α. No. folks are the ones who actually are dealing with the 5 IT -- background of the information, the training 6 stuff and things like that. That's the area I'm 7 responsible for --8 9 0. Okay. -- for the court. So I need to make sure 10 Α. that they are -- we are all on the same page in terms 11 of other issues that come up coming down the road. 12 13 So I'm making sure that the system is operational for the future uses. 14 Did you talk -- did you speak with them 15 0. about any of the particulars of this particular case? 16 17 Α. Yes, probably. And did some -- and some of those 18 Q. 19 conversations occurred this morning, you say? 20 Α. Yes.

And do you recall what the subjects were 0. of those conversations?

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Mostly the -- what I have determined, some Α. of the issues -- 'cause one of the things that I'm responsible for is to -- making sure the system is up



and running, and so I want to make sure that I can understand why things happened the way they happened and what the screens look like. So from that perspective, I show them what I was able to determine in the system.

- Q. So after this proceeding began you met with the other witnesses and explained to them the proceedings that were before this court?
- A. Not -- not exactly. So I -- this morning I did some testing on the system to see how I can replicate some of the things that occurred here. So as a (indistinguishable).
- Q. And what, specifically, did you try to replicate?
- A. So I tried to replicate the -- or I already knew about the issue with the demand. I tried to replicate the issue with the transaction log, and I was able to replicate that.

And it's also something that we discussed a couple weeks ago, and I was just confirming what I already told you back then and what we already -- already discussed at that meeting.

- Q. When you say "we discussed," you are referring to when counsel met with you?
 - A. Yes.



Q. Okay.

- A. And our group.
 - Q. And your group.

So you -- but -- but my understanding is, is that you went through those -- that information prior to our meeting and that you had made no -- you had kind of looked at this issue then, before we discussed.

A. No. So at that original meeting that we had a couple of weeks ago, that was the first time that we had discussed that, the first time I saw any of these things that were being discussed about today.

And at that point, during that meeting, I actually got on the system and looked at a couple things to determine. In fact, I already knew some of the answers. I actually dis -- gave you a lot of the answers there at that meeting. And then I just verified that on the system during that meeting.

And the one thing I did not verify was the transaction log entry, which I have verified this morning.

Q. Okay. So -- so were you given information from the other witnesses or were you speaking -THE COURT: So, Mr. Call, I'm not sure

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1	what it is you're trying to establish here. Are
2	you I think Mr I think I sense what you're
3	trying to suggest, that these people have gotten
4	together and discussed what they're going to testify
5	to as opposed to what the problem was.
6	MR. CALL: Right.
7	THE COURT: And so what you're trying to
8	suggest is that these three people sat down, got
9	together and said, This is how we're going to
10	testify.
11	MR. CALL: No, I I don't believe that.
12	I just I'm just curious as to why they would meet
13	after the proceeding commenced and why he would be
14	running tests immediately prior to the hearing.
15	THE COURT: You're seriously curious about
16	that? I know why. Everybody knows why. I'm going
17	to take a recess.
18	THE CLERK: All arise.
19	(Recess taken.)
20	THE CLERK: Court resumes in session.
21	Please be seated.
22	THE COURT: So, Mr. Call, the court
23	employees that you called as witnesses, they all have
24	different responsibilities with respect to CM/ECF.
25	And you contacted most of them personally after this



issue. And it's -- would only be expected that they would talk to each other about the issue that you were discussing and complaining about, and them trying to understand the issue that you complained about.

MR. CALL: Right.

THE COURT: And so what I had an issue with with the line of questioning that you started to pursue and continue to pursue is the suggestion that they were suggesting to each other how they were going to testify as opposed to were they discussing the problem and what was the problem that they saw.

MR. CALL: Yeah. And I didn't have a problem with them discussing the problem after we met with them a month ago, it's just I didn't anticipate that the witnesses -- I mean, I didn't exclude them from -- from these proceedings because I know that they're under the administration of your Honor, but I just didn't expect that the witnesses would -- would meet and discuss testimony between them during the course of the proceedings.

THE COURT: You didn't ask them if they had discussed testimony, and that was -- that wasn't the question you were asking him, but that was the inferences from the questions that you were asking



him, and that was the problem that I have had. 1 MR. CALL: Okay. 2 THE COURT: So if you want to be more 3 direct and ask Mr. Gfeller that question, I don't 4 have any problem with that. 5 6 MR. CALL: Okay. So, Gary, as the Court has indicated, did 7 0. you have a discussion with any of the other 8 witnesses, Gloria, Janene or Russell, concerning 9 testimony that had been given or that would be given? 10 No. 11 Α. So you -- you have quite a bit of 12 0. Okav. experience with the -- with the filing software, 13 14 correct? I consider myself a subject matter expert 15 Α. on the idea -- on the issue. 16 Okay. And -- and what is the -- is it 17 Q. called -- what -- how do you refer to it? The ECF 18 19 system? We refer to it as the case management, 20 Α. electronic case filing system, or CM/ECF. 21 Okay. And for our -- for my brief 0. 22 questions we'll just call it the filing system. 23 24 Would that be okay? 25 Α. Very good.



So the filing system, does it Q. Okav. 1 capture and maintain certain statistical data in 2 connection with a filing? 3 Yes. Α. 4 And what information is captured? 0. 5 Basically what you see on the transaction 6 Α. log is some of the information that gets captured. 7 Does it capture the date that the filer 8 0. logs in? 9 No, it does not. 10 Α. Does it capture the -- any 11 0. attempted filings of documents? 12 No, it does not. 13 Α. So it's -- if a user attempted to 14 0. Okay. file a complaint in an adversary proceeding a number 15 of times, but was unsuccessful, is it accurate -- is 16 it correct to state that the system would not store 17 those attempted filings? 18 19 Α. Probably not. So you can't determine from the filing 20 0. system software the number of attempted filings that 21 were made in -- in this particular case? 22 No, I cannot. Α. 23 You don't have a dispute that there was 24 0. prompt notice given to you and others about the 25



1 filing problem on April 23rd, do you? 2 I don't understand the question. 3 Q. Were you aware -- was -- were you advised 4 or informed via a call or a communication with Janene 5 or with Russell or with myself that there had been a problem on the 22nd in an attempted filing? 6 Not on the 22nd. It was almost midnight. 7 Α. 8 So no, not on the 22nd. 9 Q. I meant -- I'm sorry -- on the 23rd. I had heard about it on the 23rd. 10 Α. 11 Okay. And who -- how did you hear about Q. 12 it? I don't recall. 13 Α. In your role, do you work on the manual 14 Q. 15 for the filing system? 16 Α. I get involved in -- if we were going to do a manual budget. You also have to recognize that 17

A. I get involved in -- if we were going to do a manual budget. You also have to recognize that we're on version 5 of ECF, 5.2.2. That was -- last major release was done ten years ago, and so there really has been very minor changes to CM/ECF in the last ten years because the concentration by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts is on the next gen version of CM/ECF, or the filing system. But if we were to go into that, yes, I would be involved in that.

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1	Q. Okay. And then do you know the year of
2	the current filing manual?
3	A. I do not.
4	Q. So you don't know if it's prior to 2009 or
5	not?
6	A. I do not.
7	Q. Okay. And you weren't involved when
8	Janene and the others kind of got together and were
9	making some suggested edits or revisions to the
10	manual?
11	A. No, since I came here only since
12	2015 December of '15, so less than four years.
13	Q. Oh, okay. So there's been nothing in
14	regards to the manual revising or updating the
15	manual since that time?
16	A. Correct.
17	Q. And do you can you tell me what window
18	follows this window if you'll look at the
19	what's been marked as the Bank's Exhibit 3, page 20?
20	A. Yes.
21	Q. Are you familiar with that screen?
22	A. Yes.
23	Q. Okay. And can you tell me what what
24	screen follows that particular window?
25	A. Sure. I have a copy of it right with me.



- In re Allen Beal Volume 2 * October 24, 2019 1 0. Okav. 2 Α. It's a display message. 3 Q. And what does it display? 4 Α. "Please note, filing this adversary is not construed as an automatic notice of appearance and 5 6 request for notice in the related main case. To
 - Q. Okay.

file a pleading in that case."

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- A. And it gives you a Next or a Clear button.
- Q. Okay. Do you know, in the process of the filing, where the Pay.gov window arises?

ensure a notice in that main case, you may wish to

- A. Yes, I know where -- where it arises.
- O. And where does it arise?
- A. At the very end of the transaction. After you receive your notice of electronic filing, that's when you receive notification of payment, if a payment is due.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. And you'll get a window that basically says either pay now or continue filing.
- Q. Okay. So in this case would you agree that if a user could not get past this window that -- that there wouldn't be -- for whatever reason, just assuming that that window -- at that stage it was



frozen and the user couldn't get past that window -then you would agree that there wouldn't be a method
to complete the filing. Is that correct?

- A. If that happened, I would say yes, you probably couldn't complete the filing if you couldn't get past that, but it seems very unreal -- unrealistic, because it's just a Next button.
- Q. Okay. But if you hit the Next button and nothing happened, or if you received an error, you agree that you couldn't complete the filing?
 - A. Yes, I would agree.
- Q. Okay. And you would agree that you couldn't complete the payment at that time?
- A. You can never complete the payment until the end of the transaction, until the notice of electronic filing has been completed. So you never pay prior to the end of that. And it's been like that since 2001 when this court received the filing system and when I implemented it in Vermont in 2001, so...
- Q. Okay. And so if the filing is completed, then should a filer be able to -- to pay?
- A. Yes, they should be able to pay at that point. Or they cannot pay. They don't have to pay. So the system gives you the ability to pay now or to



October 24, 2019 1 continue filing. 2 Q. Okay. So --3 And if you don't get the screen, it's not Α. 4 a big deal either, because what constitute filing is the date and time on the notice of electronic filing. 5 6 0. Right. But your understanding is, is that once the filing is complete, the filer would be --7 would be given the opportunity to pay at that time? 8 9 Α. That is correct. 10 Q. And so have you had issues with -- did you -- you heard Mr. Jones' testimony concerning that 11 Pay.gov is different software? 12 13 Correct, it is. Α. 14 It is, correct? Q. 15 Α. Yes. 16 0. Okav. And, in fact, to make the payment, 17 isn't it true that you have to -- you have to be -the filer has to be taken to the Pay.gov -- what 18 19 would you call it, switch, in order to make the --20 Α. It's the Pay.gov site, yes. 21 Q. Site. But doesn't that arise 22 automatically after a filer has completed the filing? 23 Α. It can. You get a window when you opt to



go to Pay.gov to pay now or you opt to wait until the

end of the day, for instance, and do all your

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- things -- all your payments at once.
 - Q. Right.

- A. And it's ideally for people who do multiple -- multiple filings in multiple bankruptcies.
 - Q. Right. And isn't the -- and the prior window has a -- a provision that allows a filer to -- if it's the trustee or if it's a debtor, to -- to be exempt from paying a filing fee, correct?
 - A. That is correct.
 - Q. But other users are required to pay the fee, are they not?
 - A. Correct.
 - Q. Okay. And so if -- if, in fact, the filing wasn't complete, it's my understanding from your testimony that the window to make payment would not arise.
 - A. If you don't get to the notice of electronic filing, then you have not completed the transaction. And if you don't get to that, you will not get to the Pay.gov screen.
 - Q. Okay. And in this particular case the -the Pay.gov screen arose the next morning at our
 office. Do you have -- and then that -- I think you
 heard the testimony from Janene that my paralegal

1	coordinated with her once that arose and made that
2	payment?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. Do you have an understanding if, in fact,
5	there there wasn't a problem with the filing, why
6	the Pay.gov window would not have opened up until the
7	following day?
8	A. I have no idea why that might happen. It
9	seems unlikely.
10	Q. It would be abnormal, wouldn't it?
11	A. That is correct.
12	Q. Now, Gary, let me show you what's been
13	marked as Exhibit 14. It is entitled Transaction
14	Log. You're familiar with that
15	A. Yes.
16	Q report, are you not?
17	A. I am.
18	Q. And can you just real quickly tell us what
19	that report shows?
20	A. I think it's been described. It's just
21	basically a ID of all the transactions that occur in
22	the in the filing system.
23	Q. And then this other Exhibit 11 that's
24	entitled Case Report, has it been accurately
25	described?



Α. It's a report, yes.

center column -- row -- the sixth row --

- Q. Okay. And I believe when -- when we met and I discussed this with you and Mr. Jones that -do you recall that you both indicated that we had a discussion concerning this box? And let the record reflect that counsel is referring to Exhibit 11, the
 - Α. No.

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- Q. Oh, I'm sorry. The center row, sixth matrix Algebra was never my thing. So do you recall the discussion we had regarding the dates in that box?
 - Α. Yes.
- 0. And do you recall that both you and -- and Mr. Jones indicated that you had never -- had never before seen an entry like that?
- Α. I don't think I said that. I think I said it's unusual to see that, and I wanted to find out why that was.

And then I remembered and -- before we even looked into the system -- that I said that oftentimes when a filing is -- is started before midnight but completed after midnight there can be anomalies like that showing up in the system. in fact, that's, in fact, what happened. And, in

fact, there are several modification requests either been completed or pending with regards to the filing system that reflect this same kind of issue. So this is not unusual.

- Q. Okay. So based on that -- that entry, then, you would indicate that yes, there was activity on April 22nd?
- A. Sure. Absolutely. And the way the system works, it creates a context file. And that context file captures a lot of information when you first start the transaction. And then when you finish the transaction, it takes some of that information and completes and fills in the rest of the database with the information it needs.

And, obviously, this is one of those situations where the information was incorrect, and a modification request should probably be written up, but chances are this is such a minor thing that -- many of the modification requests with regards to this type of issue have been around since 2008, 2011, have never been accomplished, because there are much more important modifications that the administrative office and the courts, in general, want to get done first.

Q. I see. All right.



1	THE COURT: I might be a little confused
2	on the testimony. I thought the testimony that you
3	just gave, Mr. Gfeller, suggests that you know or
4	can find out when a user enters the system and
5	completes a filing.
6	THE WITNESS: I can tell when based on
7	this, I know that the that the context file
8	creates and and fills in data into the database.
9	There is not a physical record I mean,
10	we do have a record of in the database. There's a
11	field or a table called Users which identifies
12	when you log in when the last time you log in so
13	we know when people log into the system. So, from
14	that perspective, we know certain things about that.
15	That's not from the log files, which what we were
16	talk about.
17	THE COURT: Okay. So not from the files
18	that Mr. Call was asking you about, you can't
19	determine when a user is on and off the system, but
20	you do have that information available in the
21	database?
22	THE WITNESS: Yes, there is a table in the
23	database that can identify that information.
24	THE COURT: Okay.
25	Q. (BY MR. CALL) Okay. Okay. And if to



just further clarify the testimony that you gave, my understanding is, is that -- and I think you said it pretty well and -- and pretty specifically, but there was clearly activity on the -- on the system -- the file system.

- A. Sure, and -- and we've already established that you were logged into the system shortly after 11:39. In fact, we know the exact time was something -- 11:42 or something like that. So we know you logged onto the system. We know you restarted the transaction, so...
- Q. Okay. Okay. Thank you. So can you look over this Exhibit 14?
 - A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. And -- so just going to the far right there, just to hurry this along --
 - A. Sure.
- Q. -- it's -- again, you've heard it said.

 It says this is a temporary log-entry to handle
 timing issues with docketing the same event many
 times.

Is that -- is that kind of what you've previously testified to, that you're talking about that there are -- or let me not put words in your mouth. Do you want to explain --

- A. Sure. Actually, I --
- Q. Let me first interrupt you and ask, have you seen that entry before?
 - A. Yes, I have.
- Q. Okay.

- A. So -- and I actually did some testing to make sure that I could replicate that problem.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. And the way you replicate that problem is that at the end of the transaction, when you get to the notice of electronic filing screen -- and in the case of an outside attorney you also see the Pay.gov screen. If you go and hit the Back button, you go right back to the original screen that gives you the information about ready to file and -- and accept that -- submit that transmission.

If you do that, and you do that a couple of times, you get exactly that message. And I replicated -- I created three new cases this morning in our training database. I replicated that exact same process, and in every case I created that entry in the log entry.

- Q. So that entry reflects multiple efforts to complete.
 - A. And that seems to indicate -- and that



- seems in con -- in -- in reliance to what you had
 actually talked about when we first met a couple
 weeks ago, that you had kept going back and forth and
 back and forth, and it makes sense. And, in fact, I
- 6 hadn't validated it, and I validated it this morning.

had assumed that that's what was the issue, I just

Q. Okay.

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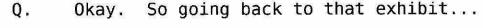
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- A. And so, yes, it's pretty clear it's -- it's -- that's the reason why.
- 10 Q. Okay. Just -- last question. Do you know 11 when the adversary proceeding opens?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Does it open simultaneously with the filing of the Complaint?
 - A. So it is the filing of the Complaint that creates the adversary proceeding. So it is when the adver -- the Complaint is filed, date and time -- and it's the date and time on the electronic -- and the notice of electronic filing for the Complaint that determines when the adversary is actually opened.
 - Q. Okay. So on the one window that had Pay Next, would the adversary typically (counsel stepped away from mic.)
 - A. Absolutely not. It has to go through several more screens before you get to the notice of





A. Yes.

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Sorry. Let me just, for the record, 0. indicate, Exhibit 14 -- so it -- it indicates -it -- there's the log entry that we were referring to on row three, and then it indicates that there was a -- an open new adversary case notice and then also a summons that was generated, correct? Α. Correct. MR. CALL: Okay. Okay. Gary, thank you --THE WITNESS: You're welcome. MR. CALL: -- for your testimony. CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MORRISON: I think you testified that we can 0. Okay. tell precisely when Mr. Call logged into the system on April 22nd, 2019, to start the process of filing the Adversary Complaint in this case. Do you have that information available to you and -- just with what you brought with you to court today? I did not bring that with me, but I Α. remember I was looking at that information at our previous meeting. Do you have information on whether 0. Okay. Mr. Call logged out during this filing and then



1 logged back in? I do not have that information, but we 2 can -- we could check that. But I don't believe that 3 when we checked that that happened. 4 Okay. How hard would it be -- that be to 0. 5 get that information for us? 6 We would have to do a search of the 7 database, just a query of the database. 8 If we were to take a short recess, how 0. 9 much time would you need to get that? 10 Five minutes. Α. 11 MR. MORRISON: Is that okay, your Honor? 12 THE COURT: I thought I was going to get 13 that. Based on the discussions we had at our 14 pretrial hearings, I thought that was going to be 15 information. So I'll take a brief recess. 16 17 MR. MORRISON: Thank you. THE CLERK: All arise. 18 (Recess taken.) 19 THE CLERK: Court resumes in session. 20 Please be seated. 21 THE COURT: All right. 22 MR. MORRISON: Okay to proceed? 23 THE COURT: Yes. 24 MR. MORRISON: All right. Thank you, your 25



1	Honor.
2	We have stipulated that Exhibits 16 and 17
3	from yesterday may be received into evidence.
4	And then also we have identified with
5	Mr. Gfeller an exhibit that we've marked as
6	Exhibit 18 that we have all counsel have also
7	stipulated may be received into evidence, and we'll
8	be talking about that exhibit in just a moment.
9	THE COURT: Well, why don't we maybe lay
10	some foundation just for my benefit.
11	MR. MORRISON: Sure.
12	THE COURT: Maybe Mr. Gfeller could
13	explain how this is generated, what it was generated
14	from and what it shows.
15	Q. (BY MR. MORRISON) Would you be able to do
16	that for us?
17	A. Yes, I can.
18	So whenever somebody logs into the system,
19	it gets logged into the log-in table of our database.
20	And there are three fields, and specifically that we
21	were looking at is the date of when the log-in
22	occurs, the IP address of machine and the person's ID
23	record. So that's in this case 1544 is for the ID
24	associated to attorney Steven Call.
25	Q. Thank you.



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1	THE COURT: Thank you.
2	THE WITNESS: And and the other thing
3	that this identifies is only when somebody logs in.
4	It does not identify when somebody logs out. So if
5	somebody does log out, the next time they log in will
6	be identified in the database and, therefore, can be
7	extracted in a report like this.
8	Q. (BY MR. MORRISON) So, in other words, we
9	can tell if somebody's logged out and logged
10	logged back in because there would be multiple
11	entries indicating that?
12	A. Correct.
13	Q. All right. Very good. And you I
14	believe you testified that the PRID, which shows up
15	on Exhibit 18, the PRID is the personal
16	identification number?
17	A. Yeah, the person ID, yes.
18	Q. And the identification number on
19	Exhibit 18 is 1544, which you have been able to link
20	to Mr. Call?
21	A. Correct.
22	Q. Okay. So does Exhibit 18 establish when
23	Mr. Call logged into the electronic filing service on
24	April 22nd of 2019?
25	A. Yes. It's at 23:40:45.



1	Q. And another way to say that time would be
2	11:40:45 seconds on the clock?
3	A. Correct.
4	Q. P.m.?
5	A. P.m., yeah. 11:00 p.m.
6	Q. Okay. Thank you.
7	And we don't see that he logged back in
8	until when, according to Exhibit 18?
9	A. Until the next morning around 8:57 a.m.
10	Q. So by that we can tell that his log-in on
11	April 22nd was continuous until he logged out
12	until we see the next entry?
13	A. Correct. I mean, we know, based upon the
14	transaction log, that he was on at least until 16
15	minutes and 48 seconds past midnight. How long he
16	stayed on after that we don't have a record.
17	Q. Okay. And that reference to the
18	16 minutes past midnight was the reference to the
19	filing of the Adversary Complaint in this case,
20	correct?
21	A. Right, on Exhibit 14.
22	Q. Okay. Thank you.
23	THE COURT: All right. So just to make
24	sure I understand, Mr. Gfeller; we don't know we
25	know Mr. Call logged in April 22nd at 11:40:45 p.m.

